POST-DEPLOYMENT MEDICAL BENEFITS AND ENTITLEMENTS BRIEFING

AS OF: 17 October 2006

Purpose

- This briefing provides a once around-the-world familiarization of medical benefits and entitlements available to Reserve Component (RC) Soldiers upon demobilization.

Agenda

- Separation Health Assessment (SHA)
- Medical Holdover Program
- Incapacitation (INCAP) Pay
- Post-Deployment Health Re-Assessment (PDHRA)
- TRICARE Health Benefits
- Continued Health Care Benefits Program (CHCBP)
- Army Wounded Warrior (AW2) Program
- Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA)
- Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicemen (UCX)

Separation Health Assessment (SHA)

- The SHA is an individualized health assessment to evaluate the Soldier at the time of discharge or release from active duty (REFRAD).
- The intent is to determine whether any new medical conditions were incurred during active duty (AD) service, any existing medical conditions were aggravated during AD service, and provide an opportunity, prior to separation, to allow documentation of any exposures or risk factors associated with the Soldier's AD service.

SHA (Cont.)

- The SHA may only be waived if the Soldier has undergone a physical examination or assessment within 12 months prior to separation, and then only with the consent of the Soldier and concurrence of the unit commander.

Questions

- Any Questions about SHA?

Medical Holdover Program (MHO)

- MHO Consolidated Guidance is available at: http://www.armyg1.army.mil/ under "Site Updates," "Medical Holdover Consolidated Guidance"
  - Medical Retention Processing (MRP)
  - Medical Retention Processing 2 (MRP2)
  - Community Based Health Care Initiative (CBHCI)

MHO (Cont.)

- The programs are 100% voluntary: Volunteer to get in and to extend.
- A Soldier cannot opt out once on Medical Holdover orders until order expiration date.
- Soldiers may remain or voluntarily return to active duty specifically for medical evaluation / treatment and if necessary, processing through the PDES for injury, or disease incurred in, or for pre-existing medical conditions aggravated in, the line of duty during their previous period of mobilization in support of GWOT.

Medical Retention Processing (MRP)

- Applies only to RC Soldiers currently on active duty for **contingency operations** in support of the GWOT under partial mobilization 10 USC 12302 orders after 6 March 2004.
- Soldier must have incurred an illness, injury, or disease, or aggravated a pre-existing medical condition in the line of duty.

MRP (Cont.)

- Military medical authority must determine that the Soldier is not expected to return to duty (RTD) within **60 days** of the time he or she is injured or becomes ill **or** will not have at least 120 days left on 10 USC 12302 partial mobilization orders beyond the expected RTD date, then the Soldier is eligible to voluntarily enter the MRP program.

MRP (Cont.)

Soldiers **not** qualified for MRP are:

- AGR
- Active Component
- Pregnant
- Pending UCMJ
- Pre-existing condition not aggravated during current call to duty

Medical Retention Processing 2 (MRP2)

- The intent of MRP2 is to return voluntarily to active duty for specific medical purpose, Soldiers with unresolved mobilized-connected medical conditions that were either not identified or did not reach optimal medical benefit prior to their REFRAD.

MRP2 (Cont.)

- Applies only to RC Soldiers with **documented unresolved mobilization-connected** medical conditions who were previously mobilized in support of GWOT, who have already been REFRAD, and who are still members of the Selected Reserve (SELRES) or the Individual ready Reserve (IRR).

MRP2 (Cont.)

- REFRAD from 1 January 2003 to 28 April 2006. Soldiers in this category have six months from 28 April 2006 to make application to the MRP2 program. Application packets must be postmarked no later than 28 October 2006.
- Soldiers that REFRAD after 28 April 2006 have **six months** from their date of REFRAD to make application to the MRP2 program. Application packets must be postmarked no later than six months from the date of REFRAD.

Community Based Health Care Initiative (CBHCI)

- The CBHCI allows recuperating Soldiers to live at home and to tap into medical assets where they live while the Soldier remains on active duty.
- Is available to MHO Soldiers enrolled in MRP and the MRP2.
- Other specific qualification criteria for CBHCI is spelled-out in the MHO Consolidated Guidance.

Questions

- Any Questions on MHO?

Incapacitation (INCAP) Pay

- RC INCAP pay is similar to workman's compensation. It is based on USC Title 37, Section 204 and 206.
- Information about INCAP pay is available in AR 135-381, Incapacitation of Reserve Component Soldiers and DA Pamphlet 135-381, Incapacitation of Reserve Component Soldiers Processing Procedure.

INCAP Pay (Cont.)

- The objective of INCAP pay is to compensate, to the extent permitted by law, members of the RC who are unable to perform military duties and/or who demonstrate a loss in civilian earned income as a result of an injury, illness, or disease incurred or aggravated in the line of duty and to provide the required medical and dental care associated with the incapacitation.

INCAP Pay (Cont.)

- INCAP pay has two purposes:

  1. It provides medical care and

  2. Compensates RC Soldiers who lose military or non-military income as a result of the service connected injury or illness.
- RC Soldier must have a line of duty determination for continued medical/dental care and INCAP payments.

INCAP Pay (Cont.)

- Soldier is entitled to base pay and allowances. Income benefits are limited to six months unless there are extenuating circumstances.
- Extended income benefits, greater than six months, are approved at the Chief, Army Reserves and Chief, National Guard Bureau level.
- To receive INCAP pay, the Soldier must initiate paperwork at unit level to their supporting Reserve Pay Office: an approved line of duty, INCAP monthly claim form (disclosing other income and if self-employed, copies of federal income tax return with supporting documentation); physician's statement; and all medical documentation.

Questions

- Any Questions about INCAP Pay?

Post-Deployment Health Re-Assessment (PDHRA)

- The PDHRA is designed to identify and address health concerns, with specific emphasis on mental health, that have emerged over time since deployment.
- Provides a second health assessment using DD Form 2900 (Post-Deployment Health Reassessment) during the three to six month period after return from deployment.

PDHRA (Cont.)

- The reassessment is scheduled for completion before the end of 180 days after return so that Soldiers have the option of treatment using their TRICARE health benefits.
- After completing the DD Form 2900, a healthcare provider will discuss with the Soldier any health concerns which they indicated on the form and will make referrals to appropriate healthcare or community-based services for evaluation or treatment if needed.

PDHRA (Cont.)

- The completed DD Form 2900 will be placed in the Soldier's permanent medical record.
- Additional information is available at: www.pdhealth.mil/dcs/pdhra.asp

Questions

- Any Questions about PDHRA?

TRICARE Benefits Available Following REFRAD

- Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP)
- TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) Program
- TRICARE Dental Plan
- POC for TRICARE claims issues
- Information is available at the following website:

  http://www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve/

TAMP

- All RC Soldiers who have served on Active Duty for more than **30 days** in support of a contingency operations are authorized TAMP benefits for 180 days after the separation date from Active Duty, as of **6 November 2003**.
- Information is available at the following website:

  http://www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve/

TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) Program

- TRS is premium-based medical coverage for certain members of the Selected Reserve and their eligible family members. The program targets RC Soldiers activated in support of a contingency operation after 11 September 2001 who served continuously on active duty for **at least 90 days** and commit to continued service in the Selected Reserve.
- This health benefits program will allow RC Soldiers who meet the eligibility requirements to obtain TRICARE health coverage at premiums comparable to that available to full-time civilian employees of the Department of Defense (DoD).

TRS Program (Cont.)

- Eligibility to purchase **TRS** is determined by the personnel offices of the Service or Reserve Component. RC members may be eligible to purchase TRS for themselves and their immediate family members if they:
  - Were called or ordered to active duty in support of a contingency operation, as defined in section 101(a) (13) (B) of Title 10, United States Code, for more than 30 consecutive days on or after September 11, 2001.
  - Served continuously on active duty for 90 days or more under those orders. The length of time served determines the maximum period of coverage offered under **TRS**.*
  - Enter an agreement to serve in the Selected Reserve.

TRS Program (Cont.)

- Information about this program is available at the following websites:

  http://www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve/reserveselect/TRS-Eligibility.cfm

  or

  http://www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve/

TAMP to TRS Time Table

TRICARE Dental Program (TDP)

- The TDP is offered by the Department of Defense (DoD) through the TRICARE Management Activity (TMA). United Concordia Companies, Inc., administers and underwrites the TDP for the TMA. The TDP is a high-quality, cost-effective dental care benefit for Ready Reserve Soldiers and their eligible family members.

TDP (Cont.)

- Information about this program, eligibility, cost, and online enrollment is available at the following website: www.tricaredentalprogram.com/tdptws/home.jsp

TRICARE Assistance

- For TRICARE assistance and help information go to: www.tricare.osd.mil/bcacdcao/
- This link contains a list of Beneficiary Counseling Assistance Coordinators (BCAC). Contact the BCAC in your area.

TRICARE Assistance (Cont.)

- Army Surgeon General's TRICARE Help:
  - The U.S. Army Medical Command's TRICARE Help E-mail Service (THEMS) is a free e-mail service that provides beneficiaries with quick answers to TRICARE questions. Clinical questions should be referred to your primary care provider.
  - In most cases, responses are provided in one to two business days. If an e-mail requires research or referral to other agencies, it may take longer, but you can expect an interim response in three to five business days. For cases referred to other agencies, the inquirers are informed who will respond to their inquiry.

TRICARE Assistance (Cont.)

- Army Surgeon General's TRICARE Help
  - Information is kept confidential, and each e-mail inquiry is tracked to ensure answers are provided quickly and professionally.
  - THEMS can be accessed worldwide from any computer connected to the internet.
- THEMS can be contacted at:

  Tricare_help@amedd.army.mil

Questions

- Any Questions about TRICARE?

Continued Health Care Benefits Program (CHCBP)

- Individuals who lose TRICARE eligibility or other coverage under the Military Health System are eligible for temporary health care coverage in CHCBP.
- CHCBP is not part of TRICARE but provides similar benefits and operates under most of the rules of TRICARE Standard.

CHCBP (Cont.)

- To obtain coverage, you must enroll in CHCBP within 60 days after separation from active duty or loss of eligibility for military health care.
- Information for CHCBP is available at: www.humana-military.com/CHCBP/details.htm

Questions

- Any Questions about CHCBP?

Army Wounded Warrior Program
AW2

- The AW2 program provides severely disabled Soldiers and their families with a system of advocacy and support to assist them as they transition back to military service or into the civilian community.

AW2 (Cont.)

- AW2 will:
  - Assist Soldiers and their families in accessing critical resources.
  - Facilitate Soldiers and families contact and coordination with external supporting agencies (DVA, Labor, Veteran Service Organizations, etc.).
  - Ensure Soldiers and family member access to non-medical support services throughout rehabilitation, return to duty or separation / retirement process, and 5-years following retirement.
  - Ensure access to a network of information and resources wherever needed.

AW2 (Cont.)

- Information for the AW2 is available at: www.aw2.army.mil

or

1-800-237-1336

or

AW2@hoffman.army.mil

Questions

- Any Questions about AW2?

Department of Veterans Affairs

(DVA)

- Eligibility for VA health care is dependent upon a number of variables, which may influence the final determination of the services for which you qualify. These factors include the nature of a veteran’s discharge from military service (e.g., honorable, other than honorable, dishonorable), length of service, VA adjudicated disabilities (commonly referred to as service-connected disabilities), income level, and available VA resources among others.

DVA (Cont.)

- Generally, you must be enrolled in VA health care system to receive medical benefits offered. To apply for VA health care benefits, you must fill out an application. The application will determine whether:
  - You have qualifying service as a veteran.
  - You meet criteria for placement into one of the priority care groups.

DVA (Cont.)

- Information for the DVA is available at:

www.va.gov

or

www.seamlesstransition.va.gov

Questions

- Any Questions about DVA?

Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicemen (UCX)

- The UCX program provides benefits for eligible ex-military personnel. The program is administrated by the States as agents of the Federal government.
- If you were on active duty with a branch of the U.S. military, you may be entitled to benefits based on that service.
  - You must be separated under honorable conditions.
  - There is no payroll deduction from the Soldier's wages for unemployment insurance protection. Benefits are paid by the various branches of the military.

UCX (Cont.)

- Benefits
  - The law of the State (under which the claim is filed) determines benefit amounts, number of weeks benefits can be paid, and other eligibility conditions.
- Filing a claim
  - Contact your State unemployment agency as soon as possible after separation. You should have a copy of your separation papers (DD Form 214) available.
- Website with additional information: www.workforcesecurity.doleta.gov/map.asp

Questions

- Any Questions about UCX?

Recap

- A lot of information in a short period of time.
- Recommend researching information at the websites included in this presentation.